

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

By the present amendment, claims 1-13 have been canceled, and claims 14-17 have been added.

Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

I. Objection to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 3-8, and 11 for informalities therein, indicating how the noted informalities can be corrected.

As noted above, claims 1-3, 8, and 11 have been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that the new claims 14-17 do not contain informalities. When drafting the new claims 14-17, the Examiner's suggestions for correcting the noted informalities have been used. The Examiner's suggestions are gratefully appreciated.

II. Rejection Over the Prior Art

The Examiner rejected claim(s) 1, 3-6, 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over European application EP1078614 (Flückiger) in view of Bartlett, et al., U.S. Patent No. 2,878,486 (Bartlett). Claims 1, 4, 5 were also rejected under the doctrine of double patenting over Flückiger, U.S. Patent No. 6,620,142 (Flückiger) that corresponds to EP '614 in view of Bartlett.

As noted above, claims 1-13 have been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that the new claims 14-17 are patentable over the cited references.

Specifically, claim 14 recites that the holding part (24), the aid handle, is formed of two sections connected, respectively with the two wall sections (27) of the second wall and is surrounded by the wall sections (26, 27) of the first and second walls, with the holding part (24) projecting beyond the folded wall sections (26, 27) by a distance that insures the inlet section (22) opens automatically upon pivoting of the holding part (24).

Neither EP1078614 nor the corresponding U.S. patent No. 6,620,142 discloses a holding part surrounded by the wall sections, as recognized by the Examiner himself.

Bartlett, while disclosing a holding part (18) does not disclose connection of the holding part with only two of the surrounding wall sections, which insures opening of the aid by simply pivoting the holding part.

In Bartlett, the holding part (18) is almost completely surrounded by the wall sections and, therefore, for opening the drain member, first the folded wall sections should be expanded manually (column 3, lines 34-40).

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Bartlett does not make the present invention, as defined by claim 14, obvious, and claim 14 is allowable over the combination of Flückiger and Bartlett.

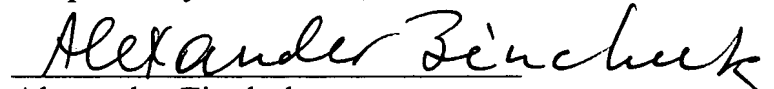
Claims 15-17 depend on claim 14 and are allowable as being dependent on an allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects, in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction to be carried out by Examiner's amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Alexander Zinchuk

Reg. No. 30,541

Abelman, Frayne & Schwab
666 Third Avenue, 10th Floor
New York, NY 10017-5621
212-885-9383